

D'Andrea

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Writer & Photographer

1993 99 AUG 24 P1:30

Rio Grande/Rio Bravo

August 19, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, Maryland 20852

Dear Commissioner Henney,

I am writing to support permanent mandatory labeling of irradiated and genetically altered food crops with a disclosure statement and the radura symbol.

I believe labeling of irradiated foods and genetically altered food crops is essential to protecting my right to make an informed choice about the food I buy. I object strongly to any proposal to reduce the size of the disclosure statement and radura. I also object to moving the labeling to a less conspicuous part of the food packaging or produce displays.

Clear, unambiguous labeling should be required for foods containing irradiated and/or genetically altered ingredients.

Changing the terminology from "treated by irradiation" or "treated with radiation" would be **misleading** to consumers who have become familiar with irradiation labeling since 1986. "Cold pasteurization" is not an acceptable substitute for "treated by irradiation"!

Finally, I oppose any expiration date for labeling irradiated foods.

Informed consumers are essential to the functioning of our market economy. Permanent, mandatory labeling of irradiated and genetically altered foods serves that goal; anything less would undermine it.


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92N-0139

C 5868

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Rio Grande/Rio Bravo

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CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number: 98N-1038/C 4695

See File Number: 92N-0139/C 5868